



Florida Department of
TRANSPORTATION



State Safety Oversight Program



OFFICE OF FREIGHT, LOGISTICS & PASSENGER OPERATIONS



“Serving the people of Florida by delivering a transportation system that is fatality and congestion free” – FDOT Vision Statement

“Safety is not an intellectual exercise to keep us in work. It is a matter of life and death. It is the sum of our contributions to safety management that determines whether the people we work with live or die” – Sir Brian Appleton after Piper Alpha



State Safety Oversight

- Federal & State requirements for formal safety and security oversight of rail fixed guideway systems
 - 49 CFR Part 659
 - Florida Statute 341.061(1)
 - 14-15.017 Florida Administrative Code (***State Safety and Security Oversight Program Standards Manual 725-030-014***)
- *Section 341.061(1), Florida Statutes (F.S.)*, requires the establishment of minimum safety standards for all governmentally owned Fixed Guideway Transportation Systems (FGTSs) and privately owned or operated FGTSs operating in the State of Florida which are financed wholly or partly by state funds. *Section 341.061(1), F.S.*, designates the Florida Department of Transportation as the State Safety Oversight (SSO) Agency with the responsibility for implementation and enforcement of the statutory provisions statewide. The Florida SSOA Standard documents FGTS and Department activities to implement *Section 341.061(1) F.S.*, Federal requirements, and to ensure ongoing communication between the Department and each affected FGTS.



SSOA Primary Team

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Key Program Positions

- ***SSO PROGRAM ANALYST (Safety and Security)***: This position functions as a multiskilled SSO program technical advisor and subject matter expert in rail transit safety and security program areas.
- ***SSO PROGRAM ANALYST (Maintenance, Vehicles)***: This position functions as a transit safety program expert in rail transit maintenance programs and helps to strengthen the capabilities of the FDOT and FGTSs shop and vehicle maintenance programs as well as ensure that a configuration management system is established and applied to all maintenance activities and that parts and warranty programs are properly managed.
- ***SSO INVESTIGATOR***: This position serves as an Investigator is required to perform time critical accident, incident, and/or hazardous condition investigations.
- ***SSO INSPECTOR***: This position conducts safety analysis on FGTS activities, services and functions required by FDOT and FTA rules, regulations and orders; provide SSO support for inspections, assessments, review of system safety program plans, reports, and other memoranda on such matters as accidents, equipment failures, derailments, and other safety violations;



FDOT Key SSOA Program Activities

- Rule Development
- Triennial Audits
- Formal/Required SSOA Recurring Teleconference Meetings with Florida Rail Transit Agencies:
- Review Team On-Site Inspection Activities (3-person, 1-person, {announced and unannounced})
- Compliance Activities
- Monthly Program Activities
- Internal Safety and Security Reviews Oversight and Support
- Reportable Event Investigation Oversight and Support
- Corrective Action Plan Oversight and Support
- Hazard Investigation Monitoring Oversight and Support
- Data Analysis
- Training
- Regular Contact between TRA, FDOT, MD DTPW, HART, and

- Formalization of processes delivers
 - Standardized practices
 - Consistency in auditing
 - Measurement of results
- Enhanced reporting
 - Better understanding of current state
 - Better understanding of results of safety work
 - Better case for investing more in safety
- Need to continue to implement improvements and lessons learned
- Demonstrable results
- Reduction in incidents
- Reduction in severity of incidents
- Improved overall performance
- End goal is zero (0) accidents and hazards



Our End Goal is Everyone's Safety: TRUST

- Key to the FDOT SSO Program's success has been establishing a strong rapport between the SSO Program (FDOT & SSO Contractor staff) and each fixed guideway system. The FDOT SSO Program emphasizes its role not just as an auditor of rules compliance, but also as a technical resource to the agencies. FDOT worked to gain buy-in from the agencies into the goals of the SSO Program, and this has fostered a strong collaborative effort with the agencies. Agencies come to FDOT for technical support, and there is frequent communication between groups.

- The strong relationships the SSO Program has built are continually reinforced through the expanded schedule of on-site activities. The comprehensive site visits, which include multiple SSO Program staff working over multiple days at each site, has reemphasized the FDOT SSO Program goals throughout each agency. At a minimum, FDOT has staff on site on a bimonthly basis. FDOT conducts both announced and unannounced visits. Any site visit culminates in an exit briefing where findings are identified and a follow-up memo which identifies the work performed as well as findings requiring a response and/or corrective action.



FDOT develops a comprehensive agenda for each site visit and provides it to transit agency staff in advance of the meeting. While a core set of agenda items is included for each visit, FDOT works with agency staff to plan an efficient, effective agenda that covers emerging concerns, recent events, and other new topics that require immediate attention for that visit. For regular SSO requirements, such as CAPs and hazards tracking, the SSO program may accept the agency process for these things, or FDOT will provide a standard process for use by the agency. FDOT seeks to streamline processes so as to minimize any additional workload placed on transit agency staff.



FDOT SSO Program staff provide detailed feedback on submittals by agencies. For recurring item needs, FDOT works to establish reasonable expectations and requirements. For example, the monthly reporting of CAPs and Hazards was established to be the fifth business day of the month, to accommodate holidays, weekends, and other exceptions. Meanwhile, FDOT also responds to requests for technical assistance and review of items developed by agencies. For example, agency staff are encouraged to reach out to the FDOT SSO staff for subject matter expertise and guidance in developing SOPs, PM schedules, new tracking mechanisms, and other needs, be they a one-time request or a process that will recur going forward



- FDOT seeks to build collaboration among its SSO community. FDOT holds statewide webinars and information sessions and also delivers periodic training or topic familiarization to all of its overseen agencies. FDOT shares lessons learned and best practices from one agency with the rest, and FDOT has helped to foster communication between various FGTS personnel from the various Florida FGTSs to coordinate in improving practices at each agency.
 - www.floridatsn.org (Florida Transit Safety and Operations Network)



2017 SSOA Program Activities

- 2017 Teleconference Schedule
 - 6 scheduled teleconferences at MD DTPW
 - 8 scheduled teleconferences at JTA/HART
 - 10 scheduled FDOT teleconferences at WAVE
 - 4 FTA quarterlies at WAVE; 12 SSWGs at WAVE; 4 FLSC meetings at WAVE
- Enhancements to add formality and consistency



2017 SSOA Program Activities

- On-Site Inspection Schedule
 - 6 scheduled visits to MD DTPW
 - 4 scheduled visits to JTA & HART
 - 2 scheduled visits to WAVE (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)
 - Coordinated with DTPW visit
 - Coordinated with major WAVE activity later in 2017 (e.g. SSRC/FLSC)
 - Unannounced visits (Formal teleconference discussions will also occur)

Accident/Incident Investigations Oversight

- SSO immediate response & engagement (2-hours as required)
 - Initial determination of level of participation (on- vs. off-site)
- SSO-FGTS formal detail conference call within 24-hrs of event, documented
 - Summary of events, initial response and mitigations, planned investigation activities
 - Further discussion on need for SSOA on-site oversight and/or assistance
 - Determination of schedule for regular communication and update
 - Technical support offer of assistance
 - FDOT priority to take over investigation



RTA Training

- FDOT training expectations will grow in 2017
 - FGTS to report status of rail transit employees by job class and training completion status on quarterly basis
 - FGTS to report scheduled training
 - FGTS to report delays in scheduled training
- FDOT to require hazard analysis to be performed for any major deficiencies or gaps in provision of training
- FDOT will offer technical assistance in organizing training programs
- FGTS can request training from FDOT to occur during on-site reviews
 - Any SSO topic – hazard management; ISAs; etc.
- SSO auditing
 - Attend classes
 - Deeper review of training course materials and content
- **Goal:** Clearer picture of safety training and job-specific training
- **Goal:** Elimination of employees lacking required training affecting safety